

CUBAN CRISIS CALENDAR

When the President came to the office the morning of October 29, 1962 he was thinking about a memento that he could give to all of those who participated in the meetings during the Cuban crisis. The one thing that was fixed in his mind was the idea of having the month of October on some kind of a background with the dates 16-28 either circled or standing out in different print. He first thought of a lucite cigarette box, like the ones he gave to the entertainers at the Inaugural Gala, with the calendar etched on the lid and the dates 16-28 encircled. The Attorney General even had a model made so that he could see what it looked like. But he didn't think it looked impressive enough so he thought of a silver cigarette box with the calendar engraved on the lid. Then he thought there might be some who did not go in for cigarette boxes so he thought of the idea of having the calendar engraved on a silver plate to be attached to a piece of wood with the dates 16-28 in larger print. And he thought it would be nice to have his initials in one corner and the donee's initials in the other. So he asked me to make up a list of all the names with their initials - he wanted one for Mrs. Kennedy and one for himself.

The calendars arrived on Wednesday, November 28th, so on the morning of November 29 the President wanted them so that he could pass them out at the National Security Council Executive Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. So the blue boxes containing the calendars were placed by his chair in the Cabinet Room and after everyone had been seated, and just before the meeting started, he distributed them. The men who did not attend the meeting received theirs either by hand delivery or by mail.

The President surprised me by having one made up for me and just before he went into the Cabinet Room that morning he handed it to me.

Paul J. Fierman

~~Christmas Gifts - December 25, 1962.~~

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Silver memento -

President John F. Kennedy	JFK
Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy	JBK
Lyndon B. Johnson	LBJ
Dean Rusk	DR
Robert S. McNamara	RSM
Douglas Dillon	DD
Robert F. Kennedy	RFK
John A. McCone	JAM
George W. Ball	GWB
Roswell L. Gilpatric	RLO
General Maxwell D. Taylor	MDT
Adlai E. Stevenson	AES
Theodore C. Sorensen	TCS
McGeorge Bundy	McG.E
P. Kenneth O'Donnell	PKO
Pierre E.G. Salinger	PEGS
U. Alexis Johnson	UAJ
Edwin M. Martin	EM.M
John J. McCloy	JJM
Dean Acheson	DA
Admiral George W. Anderson	GWA
General Curtis E. LeMay	CEL
General David M. Shoup	DMS
Robert S. Lovett	RSL
Paul H. Nitze	PHN
Donald M. Wilson	DMW

Llewellyn E. Thompson, Jr.	LET
Bromley Smith	BS
Capt. Tazewell T. Shepard, Jr.	TTS
Maj. Gen. Chester V. Clifton	CVC
Brig. Gen. Godfrey T. McHugh	GTM
General Earle G. Wheeler	EGW
David F. Powers	DPP
Evelyn N. Lincoln	ENL